

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 AGR-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01

SP-02 NSC-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 OES-03 OIC-02

AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01

USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

IOE-00 /114 W

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O 281709Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4974

INFO USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE 2174

AMEMBASSY ROME

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, ECOSOC, EGEN

SUBJECT: 59TH ECOSOC: ITEM NO. 17, FOOD PROBLEM

REF: STATE 176592

1. US DEL URGENTLY REQUESTS DEPARTMENT TO RECONSIDER ITS INSTRUCTION CONTAINED REFTEL. EXECUTION OF INSTRUCTION WILL CERTAINLY PRODUCE PRECISELY THE SITUATION WE WERE GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE SECRETARY WANTED TO AVOID, I.E., ATTACK ON PERFORMANCE OF WFC SECRETARIAT, ATTACK ON COMPOSITION OF SECRETARIAT, AND RISK OF CONFRONTATION NOT ONLY AT ECOSOC BUT ALSO WORKING GROUP TO BE HELD THIS FALL IN GENEVA AND SECOND SESSION OF WFC TO BE HELD NEXT YEAR IN GENEVA.

2. CERTAINLY US DEL WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO CONSULT

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DEPARTMENT RE AMENDMENT BUT UNDER TIME CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH

CONSULTATION WAS IMPOSSIBLE ON THE MORNING ACTION HAD TO BE TAKEN. INCIDENTALLY, THIS SITUATION NOT LIMITED TO SIMPLY FOOD ITEM. UNDER THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES THE US DEL TOOK AS ITS GUIDING PRINCIPLE WHAT WE WERE LED TO BELIEVE WERE THE DESIRES OF THE SECRETARY, I.E., THAT PERFORMANCE OF WFC SECRETARIAT NOT BE THE SUBJECT OF CRITICISM AND THAT NO ATTACKS BE MADE ON DR. HANNAH PERSONALLY. IT IS THE UNANIMOUS JUDGMENT OF THE DEL AND THE THREE OFFICERS HANDLING THE MATTER; VIZ, AMB FERGUSON, MINCOUN KITCHEN, AND MR. KLEIN, THAT AN AMENDMENT OF THIS TENOR WAS THE ONLY WAY OF ACHIEVING OUR OBJECTIVE.

3. WE APPRECIATE THAT THE WRAP-UP TELEGRAM, WHICH COULD ONLY BE WRITTEN AFTER THE EVENT OF THE TWO DAYS' PROCEEDINGS, MAY NOT HAVE GIVEN THE FLAVOR OF THE POTENTIAL FOR DISASTER HERE IN GENEVA. PERHAPS WE SHOULD HAVE BEEN LESS IMMODEST IN SETTING FORTH BLOW BY BLOW OF WHAT HAD TO BE DONE TO AVOID REPETITION OF THE ROME EVENT. IN ANY EVENT, DR. HANNAH HIMSELF WAS GENERALLY AWARE AND IN SOME CASES PARTY TO TAKING SUCH STEPS AS TO ASSURE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE WOULD CERTAINLY SUGGEST THE DEPARTMENT IN RECONSIDERING THIS INSTRUCTION CONTACT DR. HANNAH IMMEDIATELY.

4. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT EVEN NOW BOTH THE LATIN AMERICANS (WITH EXCEPTION OF BRAZIL) AND THE DUTCH WISH TO RE-OPEN THE WHOLE MATTER OF THE WFC ITEM. WE HAVE WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY AND WITH EXTRAORDINARY EFFORT SO FAR SUCCESSFULLY CONTAINED THESE DESIRES. IN THE EVENT THE LA'S AND DUTCH RE-OPEN THIS MATTER, IT IS CLEAR BEYOND ANY SHADOW OF DOUBT THAT THE G-77 WILL VOCIFEROUSLY RE-AFFIRM THEIR BASIC POSITION OF THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY OF IMMEDIATE RE-STRUCTURING THE SECRETARIAT TO ASSURE THEIR VERSION OF PROPER GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE. THE AMENDMENT IN QUESTION HAS BEEN THE ANCHOR ON WHICH THIS POTENTIALLY DISASTEROUS FORCE HAS BEEN KEPT CONTAINED.

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5. DEPARTMENT SHOULD FURTHER BE AWARE THE AMENDMENT RAISES NO PROBLEMS REPEAT NO PROBLEMS WITH FAO. (FYI: US DEL HAS BEEN IN DAILY CONTACT WITH PERSONAL REP D-G BOERMA RE THIS MATTER. END FYI.)

6. THIS MATTER OF INSTRUCTIONS IS OF SUCH URGENCY THAT WE WOULD APPRECIATE IMMEDIATE REACTION, EVEN

TELEPHONICALLY.DALE

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